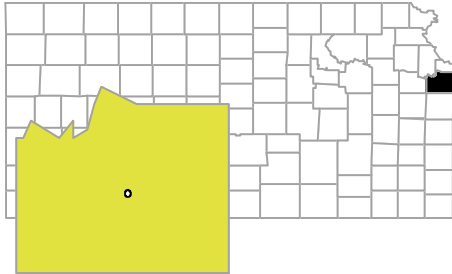


**CHEMICAL  
COMMODITIES, INC.**  
**KANSAS**  
**EPA ID# KSD031349624**

**EPA Region 7**  
**City: Olathe**  
**County: Johnson County**  
**Other Names:**



## **SITE DESCRIPTION**

The Chemical Commodities Inc. (CCI) site is located in a commercial and residential area of central Olathe, a suburb of Kansas City. The CCI site occupies approximately 1-3 acres and borders the Burlington Northern railroad right-of-way, a vacant lot, and single family residences. CCI is an inactive chemical recycling facility that handled, stored, repackaged, and distributed a variety of chemicals. Before 1951, the site was occupied by an ice manufacturer. CCI operated the facility from 1951 to 1989. In 1980, CCI acquired a Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) permit allowing the facility to generate and transport hazardous waste. During the facility's operation, poor housekeeping, inappropriate material handling and storage practices, and facility conditions that allowed materials to migrate off site were documented. Concerns for public health and the environment were raised during the facility's operation due to emanating odors, contaminated rain water runoff from the site, and fires. Investigations by CCI, the Kansas Department of Health and Environment, and the EPA have indicated that soil and groundwater are contaminated with a wide range of metals, volatile and semi-volatile organic compounds (VOCs), and pesticides. Some of these substances have migrated off-site via air and surface water runoff. A covered mound of excavated, contaminated soil is also present at the site. Approximately 78,000 people live in the city of Olathe; about 7,100 live within 1 mile of the site. Groundwater is not used as a source of municipal drinking water; however, private wells are found within 3 miles of the site.

### **Site Responsibility:**

This site is being addressed through Federal and potentially responsible party's actions.

### **NPL LISTING HISTORY**

**Proposed Date:** 01/18/94

**Final Date:** 05/31/94

**Deleted Date:**

## THREATS AND CONTAMINANTS

**Description:** The soil and groundwater are contaminated with various metals including chromium; VOCs and semi-VOCs, primarily, trichloroethylene (TCE), carbon tetrachloride, and tetrachloroethylene (PCE), and pesticides. Groundwater also is contaminated with high concentrations of TCE and PCE. High concentrations of TCE and PCE found in the soil were detected in an air sample collected downwind of the site. The site is secured to limit public access. Ingesting or touching contaminated soil or groundwater could pose a public health threat. Disturbing the soils on-site could release contaminants to the air and pose an inhalation threat.

## CLEANUP APPROACH

### **Response Action Status**

**Immediate Actions:** In 1991, the EPA completed the disposal of chemicals and grossly contaminated soil; building decontamination; and the installation of a groundwater capture and treatment system. An interceptor trench was constructed to capture contaminated water from the groundwater table. The groundwater is treated on-site prior to discharge.

**Entire Site:** The EPA has overseen additional site characterization work conducted by a potentially responsible party (PRP). This work included extensive sampling of soil and groundwater to determine a more detailed account of the nature and extent of contamination at the site. Final cleanup actions will address subsurface soil and further groundwater contamination.

**Description:**

**Site Facts:**

## ENVIRONMENTAL PROGRESS



After investigating the site, EPA determined that the groundwater poses no immediate threat to the community due to its limited use and distance from any known receptors. In addition, the removal of chemicals and heavily contaminated soil, and decontaminating buildings have significantly reduced immediate threats to the community posed by site contaminants. EPA continues to pursue a final remedy for the site .

## SITE REPOSITORY



Olathe City Library, 201 E. Park Street, Superfund Records Center  
Olathe, KS 66061  
901 N. 5th St.  
Kansas City, KS 66101  
Mail Stop SUPR  
(913)551-4038

## REGIONAL CONTACTS

**SITE MANAGER:**

Bruce Morrison

**E-MAIL ADDRESS:**

morrison.bruce@epa.gov.  
(913) 551-7755

**COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT**

Hattie Thomas

**COORDINATOR:**

**PHONE NUMBER:**

(913) 551-7762

**PUBLIC INFORMATION CENTER:**

Olathe Public Library  
201 E. Park  
Olathe, Kansas 66061

**E-MAIL ADDRESS:**

**STATE CONTACT:**

Dan Gravett

**PHONE NUMBER:**

(913) 296-6378

## MISCELLANEOUS INFORMATION

**STATE:**

**PACIFIC ISLAND(S):**

07L3

**CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT:**

03

**EPA ORGANIZATION:**

SFD-EELR/SUPR

## MODIFICATIONS